United Nations S/2001/271

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 March 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 22 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the translation into English of a note verbale dated 4 February 2001 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hadi **Nejad-Hosseinian**
Ambassador
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Annex to the letter dated 22 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran and has the honour to state the following.

According to the reports submitted by the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the acts of hostility described below have been committed by the terrorist Mojahedin Khalq Organization (MKO), authorized by the Government of Iraq to be based on Iraqi soil with a view to engaging in acts of sabotage against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

1. On 4 November 2000, 10 people belonging to MKO, who intended to infiltrate into the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Mehran region, were intercepted by Iranian border guards. They retreated in the direction of Iraqi territory, leaving behind one large radio, 20 82 millimetre (mm) mortar shells, one RPG7 and one large backpack.

2. On 19 November 2000, at 1100 hours, eight 82 mm mortar shells were fired by the terrorist MKO in an attack across the border from inside Iraq onto Iranian territory in the Mosian district.

3. On 26 November 2000, at 1200 hours, 11 120 mm mortar shells were fired by the terrorist MKO in an attack across the border from inside Iraq onto Iranian territory in the Ilam district.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, strongly protesting against the above-mentioned acts of hostility, holds the Government of the Republic of Iraq responsible for the adverse consequences of such acts resulting from the provision of sanctuary to the terrorists of MKO on Iraqi soil and the creation of favourable conditions for them to organize armed acts of terrorism and sabotage against the Islamic Republic of Iran, which are in flagrant contravention of international norms and principles and the United Nations Charter, as well as the principles of good-neighbourly relations.

It is to be recalled that the continuation of such intrusions will cause irreparable damage to bilateral relations. Therefore, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while respecting the territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and the principle of good-neighbourly relations, considers the continuation of such acts of hostility to be intolerable and reserves its right to legitimate self-defence as well as to the removal of any threats.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran takes this opportunity to convey to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran the assurances of its highest consideration.